



New face at The Times

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Bales, filling in
as editor for the
next few weeks.



Celebrating diversity

Meet a Muslim
family, in
Bradford West
Gwillimbury.



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Thursday, March 19, 2015



The Real March Break

Photo by Miriam King, Bradford Times

Pioneer kids were let out of school for a couple of weeks in March, not for a holiday, but to work from dawn until dusk, helping their families collect maple sap to make maple syrup and sugar. Here, Daniel, 5 and a half, tries out a child-sized yoke, at the Kortright Centre for Conservation's Sugarbush Maple Syrup Festival, March 15. For more information on Maple Syrup festivals, see page 13.

More cuts to the Police Budget

The South Simcoe Police and Bradford West Gwillimbury-Intisfil Police Services Board worked with the CAOs and Treasurers of both municipalities to reduce the 2015 Police Operating Budget - which had been rejected by the two Town Councils.

The 2015 Operating Budget initially came in at nearly \$15.529 million - approximately \$500,000 more than an estimate prepared in 2013 during the Police Costing debate, when the Towns of BWG and Intisfil were considering a switch to policing by the OPP. Councils rejected the 2015 Operating Budget, with several Councillors suggesting that the "firm estimate" presented 2 years earlier was a declining factor in their vote to stick with South Simcoe Police. Intisfil Council, in particular, sent the budget back to the Board, asking that the numbers come back more in line with the 2013 estimate, of \$15.453 million.

On March 16, the Board presented its revisions - and although it didn't bring the numbers down to the 2013 figure, it did carve an additional \$189,379 from the budget, in part by adjusting the hiring schedule.

The final figure: \$15.740 million, split between Bradford West Gwillimbury and Intisfil, with Intisfil picking up about 53.4% of the tab.

The 2015 Capital Budget, already approved by both BWG and Intisfil Councils, was also reduced, from the initial \$620,000 to \$596,200, split 50-50 between the two municipalities.

The cuts mean that the 2015 Operating budget represents a 0.8% increase over 2014; once growth in assessment is factored in, the Police Levy will actually decrease.

"I'd like to thank Chief Beazley and also the CAOs and Treasurers of both Towns for getting this down to where it's going to be agreeable to both Councils," said Intisfil Mayor Gord Wüschoppe, a member of the Board. "I'm happy with the budget," said BWG Mayor Rob Keffer, also a PSB member. He

see BUDGET Page 2



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Police Operating Budget reduced - and approved

BUDGET from Page 1

noted that the increases remaining in the budget can be justified. "It's a way that we can move forward. It's better for the service, and it will save us money in the long run."

The Budget was presented to BWG Council on March 17 and was approved.

"It is a budget we can certainly champion," said Deputy Mayor James Leduc, congratulating Mayor Keffner and the Board for bringing in a "respectful number."

Noting that the revised budget translates into a decrease of 1.98% in the Police Tax Levy for BWG

taxpayers, or a drop of \$11.70 on the average home, Councillor Gary Lamb said, "I don't know of any other department in Town that can match that... We need a viable and well-trained police service."

The budget was presented to Innisfil Council on March 18.

(Note: The figure presented to BWG Council was just under \$15.888 million, because it did not include Provincial Court Security & Prisoner Transportation revenues; the Police Services Board did include those revenues (over \$91,000) in its calculations.)

More CarrotFest

Festival and Events Ontario has recognized Bradford West Gwillimbury's annual CarrotFest as one of the top 100 Festivals in Ontario, for the 5th year in a row - out of more than 5,000 events considered.

"This is a testament to the great work by department staff and volunteers for CarrotFest to be recognized for the fifth year running," said Acting Director of Leisure Services, Terry Moran.

CarrotFest attracts over 25,000 people to Bradford - but this year's street festival could be bigger and better than ever, now that Town Council has agreed to consider expanding the event.

Stephen Dykic, owner of The Village Inn-Bradford - a family-run business in the downtown core for the past 45 years and a major sponsor of CarrotFest - appeared as a deputation before Council on February 17, asking for the Town's support for an earlier start to CarrotFest.

CarrotFest was scheduled for Saturday, August 15, 2015. Dykic proposed closing Simcoe Rd. between Holland and Mary Streets at 3 p.m. on Friday, August 14, with the Official Opening at 5 p.m. that evening.

He noted that The Village Inn has been "the epicentre and the founder of CarrotFest... We've had numerous requests from the community to have CarrotFest more of a weekend event." Starting Friday afternoon would also be a way to offset the "financial burden" of a one-day festival that is dependent on the weather, he said.

Last year's CarrotFest celebration was rained out.

Dykic proposed a "Midnight Madness" event at local stores on Friday evening, to make CarrotFest "a weekend of commerce in the struggling downtown Bradford area."

He had the support of Leisure Services' Manager of Recreation Nick Warman, who called the Friday opening "a bit of a kick-off to expand

the event," working with "one of our biggest and best partners."

Dykic was asked if he had spoken with the owner of the neighbouring Funeral Home about his proposal. He acknowledged that he had not, but promised that there would be uninterrupted access to the municipal parking

lot, and respect for the operation of the funeral home. "If the sound volume has to be adjusted, it will."

A staff report came back to Committee of the Whole on March 17, and Councillors voted to recommend a Friday start for the festival.

"I think this is a great idea, to kick off CarrotFest," said Councillor Mark Contois. "I think it's good for the community... It will be a good trial, and maybe carry on through the years."

Councillor Peter Dykic Jr. agreed. "Last year was a heart-breaker. You wait months for the event, and you get washed out." He noted that many municipalities host 2-day festivals. "If it give the vendors an opportunity, if there's bad weather."

Mayor Bob Keffner asked about the noise, concerned about residents in the area. He was assured the music would stop at midnight, on both Friday and Saturday.

Photo: Rain gear and umbrellas at last year's CarrotFest.



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'No financial plan' for Peterman Lane

The new Bradford West Gwillimbury Council, concerned by the potential cost of the Southeast Arterial Road (SEAR), and its planned route from Bridge St. to Simcoe Road, asked Town staff to look at a possible alternative; developing Peterman Lane, through the Holland Marsh to the 6th Line, as a bypass for traffic.

On March 17, Council received the staff report. The conclusion: The Peterman option is likely to be twice as expensive, since it is nearly twice as long as the SEAR, goes entirely through the Holland Marsh, and will require widening and excavation of all of the peat along its length to create the roadbed, which would have to be elevated to avoid the risk of flooding.

The Peterman route would also require a new Environmental Assessment, starting from scratch - while the SEAR's Environmental Assessment has been completed and approved, detailed design is nearly done, and the SEAR will be ready to go to tender later this spring.

The report recommended looking at the Peterman Lane option in the next Transportation Master Plan Update, for inclusion in a Development Charges background study - but not pursuing the option at this time.

Some members of Council were not convinced, especially after hearing from residents opposed to the SEAR. In Open Forum, Joe Mendrek argued that it would direct out-of-Town traffic through Bradford residential roads. He asked Council to "look a little bit further, so we don't direct traffic through a residential area," proposing a route along Morris Rd.

Paula Benenati said that she had gone door to door to her neighbours on Simcoe Rd., and "they are all very concerned for the safety of their children" if traffic volumes increase.

Jody Mott, executive director of the Holland Marsh Growers Association asked for a delay, to give farmers more time to consider the routes and comment on the impact on farming operations. "We've got farming equipment and

a whole other industry that do need to use these roads as well."

Councillor Mark Contois pointed out that Simcoe Road is an arterial road, designed to carry a high volume of traffic. "Simcoe Road is one of our main roads. It always has been," he said, suggesting that there will be a need for both the SEAR and Peterman Lane, "to make traffic flow within the

see PETERMAN Page 5



The BWG-Innisfil Police Services Board has announced that Andrew Fletcher has been hired as the new Deputy Police Chief for the South Simcoe Police Service. Fletcher, seen above with Police Services Board Chair Sharon Villani, is the Deputy Chief of Halton Regional Police, a position he has held since 2007.

In a career that began in 1984, Fletcher has worked in Uniformed Patrol, Criminal Investigation, Tactical Unit, Drug & Morality Bureau, Homicide, and Community Policing Support. He is a graduate of the FBI Academy.

The Burlington resident has coached youth soccer and supports Special Olympics Ontario. He has received a Governor General of Canada Order of Merit of the Police Forces, in 2012, and a Queen's Jubilee Medal in 2014. He is on the Executive of the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police, serving as Zone 4 Director, and Chair of the OACP Community Safety and Crime Prevention Committee.

The appointment, announced at the PSB meeting in Bradford on March 16, takes effect June 1.

"He'll certainly be an asset to our Management Team, and give our residents a confidence in our Police Service," said BWG Mayor Rob Keffeler.

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comment

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A new face at the Bradford Times



There will be a new face at the Bradford Times, for the next few weeks. Welcome Patrick Bales as the temporary Editor of The Times - filling in while long-time editor Miriam King is off, for family reasons. He can be reached at 905-775-4471 ext. 512223, or email patrick.bales@sunmedia.ca or Twitter @patrickbales

Information sent to mriam.king@sunmedia.ca will also reach the Editor's Desk.

Patrick is a graduate of Bradford District High School, and has worked for Sunmedia for nearly 8 years. He is currently Multi-Media Journalist at The Packet & Times in Orillia. He has worked as Editor of several midwestern Ontario publications.

Success for Speak for Success Toastmasters

Club Winners in local Toastmasters' International Speech and Evaluation competitions had the opportunity to compete at the Area 14 level, on March 11. Representatives of Toastmasters' clubs in Keswick, Newmarket, Aurora and Bradford spoke in front of the judges, hoping to move on to the Division Championship.

Congratulations to the winners of the International Speech Contest - Geoff Margan in 1st place, from the Court of Blarney in Newmarket; and Annette Lavigne of Speak for Success



York Simcoe Toastmaster of Bradford, in 2nd. The winners of the Evaluation contest were Laura Vaivada, from Northern Lights Advanced Toastmasters of Aurora in 1st, and Lavigne in second.

The Division M contest will be held at the Town of Newmarket town hall, 395 Mulock Road on March 28, from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The public is welcome

to attend. Winners of the Division will advance to the District 96 Conference, held April 24-26 at the Sheraton Parkway Toronto North, in Richmond Hill. The ultimate goal? To make it to the International Conference for the World Championship of Public Speaking in Las Vegas this August.

Toastmasters is a non-profit educational organization that teaches public speaking and leadership skills. Bradford's Speak for Success York Simcoe Toastmasters meet upstairs at the BWG Leisure Centre, 411

West Park Ave., on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Tuesdays of the month, 7 to 9 p.m. See www.toastmaster96.org
Submitted photo: from left, Area 14 Governor Jim Chapman, Annette Lavigne - who placed 2nd in both the International Speech Contest and Evaluation competition, and Division M Governor Leicy Sabrinio, March 11.

St. Patrick's, at the Bradford Legion

Enjoy a St. Patrick's Party - Newfie Style! At the Bradford Legion on March 21, starting at 7 p.m. - a party organized by the Newfie Corner and Alice's Home-made. Includes dinner of Irish Stew in bread bowls and Caesar Salad, and

dancing to DJ Bernie at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$25 per person, \$45 per couple, available at 905-775-6245 or 705-424-9378. Tickets for the Dance only will be available at the door, after 8 p.m.

see LEGION Page 8



Submitted photo, Procyon Wildlife

Volunteers with Procyon Wildlife, a shelter and rescue centre for injured and orphaned wildlife, feed baby bunnies that would not survive, without intervention. The Centre is looking for volunteers.

letters to the editor

Procyon looking for volunteers

To the editor: Procyon Wildlife, a registered charity staffed entirely by volunteers, is ramping up for "Baby season" and is looking for additional volunteers to care for and feed orphaned wild animals.

Once the orphaned babies start arriving, Procyon will run 3 feeding shifts - early morning, afternoon and evening - at the centre which is located near Beeton.

Training for volunteers starts in the next few weeks. If you are looking for a fulfilling volunteer opportunity, and have 4 hours per week to spare, please email Linda at volunteering@procyonwildlife.com or call 905-729-0033. Please note that for insurance reasons, animal care volunteers must be 18 years or older.

Cathie Brenner, Procyon Wildlife Volunteer

Megathanks from Megathon

To the editor: Thank you to the 55 people who signed up for the Megathon in support of Heart & Stroke, February 21 at the BWG Leisure Centre - and to the vendors who set up their booths: the Red Cross, Heart & Stroke Foundation, Be Well Chiropractic, and Simply for Life. And thank you to the businesses that donated prizes, or made donations to the event: The Flower Merchant, Nancy's Nifty Nook, Water Depot, BWG Leisure Centre.

The goal was to raise \$1,500 for the Heart & Stroke Foundation: participants raised \$1977!

Stephanie Uren, Fitness Supervisor

Tec-We-Gwill WI Meets

The Tec-We-Gwill Women's Institute meets Monday, March 23 at the Tec-We-Gwill W. I. Hall in Newton Robinson (10th Line and County Rd. 27), at noon. Bring your own sandwich; the Lunch Committee will provide tea, coffee and dessert. Guest speaker is a representative of My Sister's Place, a shelter for abused women and their children located in Alliston.

Young Liberals in Bradford

By Jonathan Scott

On March 1, as part of the Young Liberals of Canada National Day of Action, the York-Simcoe Young Liberals organized a training and door-to-door canvassing effort in Bradford, in support of Federal Liberal candidate Dr. Shaun Tanaka.

YSYL president Nicholas Ferreira, Grade 11 student at Bradford District High School, organized the training session, and recruited 10 local youth for the effort. The team went over the basics of the Liberal message, and a new Smart phone app that streamlines data entry - a system originating from the successful Obama field campaign.

After canvassing a neighbourhood in Bradford, Tanaka told the group, "I'm so thankful to have such an amazing group of volunteers working together to pursue positive change."

Young Liberal clubs exist in many ridings, and most university campuses across Canada. Since the 1930s, the Young Liberals have been at the forefront of progressive change, campaigning against climate change, and in favour of equal marriage. Several prominent Canadian politicians had their start in the YLC, including former Prime Ministers Jean Chretien, John Turner and Paul Martin.

Bradford native, Jonathan Scott is the national elections co-chair for the Young Liberals of Canada.

The York-Simcoe Federal Liberal Association is hosting a free spaghetti supper in Mount Albert to mark Earth Hour, at the Mount Albert Lions Hall, 5057 Mount Albert Road on Saturday, March 28. Doors open at 6 p.m.; Candidate Dr. Shaun Tanaka will speak. Please RSVP to www.shountanaka.ca under Events.

At the Danube Srs. Centre

The Danube Seniors Leisure Centre is located at 715 Simcoe Rd. south of Bradford. For information on programs and events, call 905-775-0612 – or visit the new website, danubeseniorcentre.webs.com

Coming up:

Movie Afternoon – Saturday, March 28 at 1:30 p.m. See *The Grand Seduction*, a Canadian movie about a small town in Newfoundland trying to lure a doctor to their community, and enjoy popcorn, dessert, tea or coffee – only \$3 per person.

Singing with the Goldenaires! Students from St. Charles Catholic School will be joining the Goldenaires choir at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, March 31 for an afternoon of song.

The Memorial Service for **Ken Brushett**, who passed overnight on March 3-4 from natural causes, will take place at the Bradford Alliance Church, 758 Simcoe Road, on Tuesday, March 24 at 7 p.m. Speakers will include representatives of the Danube Seniors Leisure Centre, Bridge Club, and Men's Thursday Morning Bible Study Group. The Danube Centre will be providing food, and the Church will serve refreshments. All are welcome.

There will also be a memorial on Sunday, April 12 at Lakeside Nazarene Church, 19513 Yonge St. in Aurora, at 10:30 a.m.



Anyone you know? These photos were found at the Bradford United Church Treasure Sale. Anyone with information should contact the Bradford Times at 905-775-4471 ext. 512223. The next Treasure Sale at the Church, 66 Barrie St., will take place Saturday, March 28 from 8 to 11 a.m. – treasures by donation.

Show & Tell with the Local History Assoc.

Did you inherit a whatchamacallit from your grandmother? Have you always wanted to know what that box device you found in grandpa's garage actually does? Do you own a prized pair of World War II made-in-Canada binoculars?

Bring your family treasures and mysteries to the next meeting of the BWG Local History Association on Saturday, March 28, 2 p.m. at the Bradford West Gwillimbury Public Library, 425 Holland St. West. The theme of the meeting is "Show & Tell,"

and anything goes!
All are welcome to attend.

The Innisfil Historical Society's next meeting is at the Knuck Schoolhouse Heritage Site on Saturday, March 21 at 2 p.m. Jason Verkaik from Carron Farms in the Holland Marsh will talk about being a "Marsh Mucker," and what is involved in marsh farming. The Knuck School is located at 7758-10 Sideroad, at the 9th Line of Innisfil. For more information, contact Marj Mossman, 705-436-1742.

'No financial plan' for Peterman Lane route

PETERMAN from Page 3

community and to make it safe."

But Councillor Peter Dykie Jr. argued, "I don't believe the residents were properly informed. There should have been a workshop.... I stand on the residents. The residents spoke."

Dykie warned that the SEAR would be used by residents of York Region as "another back way" to get to Highway 400 – although he supported the Peterman route.

Councillor Gary Baynes proposed an amendment, to delay construction of the SEAR while further studies of the cost, schedule, impact on residential areas, impact on farmers and the alternative routes are carried out. The installation of a force main would proceed; "I want to put the pipes in, but not the asphalt," he said.

Deputy Mayor James Leduc was blunt in his response: "There's no possible way to do Peterman." The route isn't in the Transportation Master Plan, the Official Plan, or the Development Charges background study, Leduc said. "If we don't do a traffic study, we're not going to get the money for Peterman (from DCs). If we don't do the SEAR, we can't do Holland St." - and with 1000 new homes planned for the Green Valley area, "we need to move that traffic. It's as simple as that."

Councillor Raj Sandhu said that Council should address residents' traffic concerns but told Councillor Dykie, "To not go with (the SEAR) because people from York Region are going to use it or people from Barrie are going to use it – that's not the right logic."

Director of Engineering Arup Mukherjee pointed out that there are some "pretty significant implications" if the Town chooses the Peterman route. "We don't have any financial plan to deal with the alternate that is twice the cost," and that needs an Environmental Assessment, he said. The Early Prepayment

Agreement #3, signed by the Town's residential developers, clearly states that those developers will pay the "Benefit-to-Existing" share of costs, normally borne by taxpayers, for the SEAR; he doubted it could "sell" the developers on a road that is twice as expensive.

Mukherjee pointed out that the SEAR goes through residential areas because it is designed to carry that residential traffic, providing an alternative route for Bradford residents "who today are either coming through the back streets or staying on Holland and adding to the congestion there."

Finally, to switch routes would mean a delay of at least 3 to 4 years, before there is any relief for the growing population.

Councillor Gary Lamb, who was "not happy" with the SEAR, concluded, "If we don't build it, we're going to get more and more traffic going through the Marsh." In an effort to avoid Holland St. "I think we have to do something."

"What's the rush? Take your time to do the thing right. Build a better bypass in a couple of years – Peterman Lane or another alternate," argued Councillor Baynes.

Deputy Mayor Leduc suggested that the new Traffic Committee will address issues of congestion, speeding, and traffic calming, for existing as well as new roads. As for the SEAR, if that is delayed "we're still going to have all this traffic on Simcoe Road from new growth."

Baynes' amendment was defeated, 7-2. Baynes and Dykie voting in favour. The Peterman Lane option will be considered in the next Transportation master plan – and the SEAR will go to tender later this spring.

Mayor Rob Kelfer noted that Council will have an opportunity to stop the SEAR when the tenders come in. "At that time we'll have a better idea of the cost of construction and land acquisition."

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Meet a Muslim Family

Every year the Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at of Canada - the Ahmadiyya Muslim community - reaches out to their non-Muslim neighbours, to share a greater understanding of their faith and culture.

The Ahmadiyya are Sunni Muslims, who follow the teachings of Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, and whose guiding principle is "Love for All, Hatred for None". But this year's outreach has a special impetus. A rising tide of Islamophobia is putting pressure on all Muslims in Canada, creating fears that basic Canadian values of tolerance and multicultural acceptance may be put at risk.

The AMJ Community, in response to the debate over interpretations of the Qur'an and the wearing of a headscarf or "hijab" launched a campaign inviting their neighbours to "Meet a Muslim Family." All across Canada, Ahmadiyya Muslims opened their doors, and welcomed guests for an afternoon or evening of dinner and dialogue.

Muhammad Shabootti and Mona Shah live in Bradford with their 4 children, in one of the newer subdivisions. It's a multi-generational household. Living with them are Mona's parents, Nasir Shah and his wife Syeda.

They moved to Bradford West Gwillimbury almost 2

years ago, and enjoy the quiet, small-town aspects of Bradford, and the rural character of the countryside.

At first, Mona says, "It was too quiet!" It took a while for her to feel part of the greater community - but as Outreach Co-ordinator for the local AMJ Community, and a member of the School Board's Parent Involvement Committee, she has been making new ties. She is also involved in the new BWG Diversity Action Group.

The family is in many ways typically Canadian. Muhammad is a certified Civil Engineer; Mona (who has kept her maiden name) has a University degree.

There is a large-screen TV in a place of honour in the living room, and dinner is likely to include lasagne or pizza at least once a week.

The oldest son, in Grade 12, is looking at a career in the military. The oldest daughter, Soha, is in Grade 10 at Bradford District High School, and loves her school. She is interested in pursuing a career in medicine.

But there are differences. Although Mona doesn't wear a headscarf at home among members of her own family, she does the traditional scarf when she is out, among men who are not in the family. "I'm practicing modesty," she explains.

She began wearing the headscarf in her second year at

University, after she studied "the rationale behind it... There's a bit of a barrier there, and that's the message I'm trying to send."

Soha also wears the headscarf, something she adopted in Grade 9.

"I've always wanted to start," she says, and the first year of high school "was a perfect time." She was a little worried about the reaction of her classmates. "I was very scared at the start, because there's a lot of prejudice," she says; instead, "I've actually got a lot of positive feedback... Everyone's really supportive. I was surprised."

Mona also talks about the central role of her faith. The requirement for Muslims to pray 5 times a day is not a limitation, but something that helps her cope. "Your life is so fast-paced around here," she says; prayer time is quiet time, a time to work on problems. "Verbalizing helps you deal with it... It's the relief. You get that peace."

There is also flexibility with the exigencies of jobs and raising children. Islam allows the 2 afternoon or 2 evening prayers to be combined.

She doesn't shy away from discussing the more violent passages of the Qur'an, quoted by both terrorists and Islamophobes. "Those verses are taken out of context," she says firmly. "Those are historical verses - context-dependent verses," that refer to the struggles and events happening at the time of The Prophet. They are included to ponder, to think, to question...

Unfortunately, a lot of people use it for their own agenda." It is the "context-independent verses" that provide the template for living, she says: "Unity of God, Worship of God, Giving to charity and helping the poor."

Muhammad sums it up: "When you think about Islam, it's peace." The terrorists "change everything to violence. This is not Islam."

Muhammad comes from Yemen, and speaks Arabic, as well as English. Mona's background is from India and Pakistan. She speaks Urdu, English, and a little Arabic.

Misunderstanding is at the root of so much, she says. She had reservations herself, when she went to the Middle East for the first time. She was surprised to discover, "These are ordinary people. They have the same aspirations for their children," the same hopes and fears.

Discovering common ground can be a strong basis for understanding and acceptance - which is what Meet a Muslim Family was all about.



Photo and story by Miriam King, Bradford Times

Standing, Mona Shah and Muhammad Shabootti. Seated, Nasir and Sayeda Shah, and their grandchildren Soha, a Grade 10 student at Bradford High, and Aisha, 3 and a half, in their Bradford home.

Celebrating Diversity



Bradford West Gwillimbury Mayor Rob Keffer identifies the location of his family's origins, on the Diversity map.

Mapping Diversity in BWG

The new BWG Diversity Action Group unveiled its Diversity Map at the Bradford Public Library on March 14, inviting residents to use the colored dots to indicate their country of origin or heritage.

"We have to know where we come from, to know where we're going... (to) take the strengths from all of these areas," said Bradford West Gwillimbury Mayor Rob Keffer, as he placed the first sticker on the map.

He congratulated the Action Group for their work, and said that he looks forward to being part of an effort to "learn from the neighbours who call Bradford 'home'."

"It was a team effort," said Councillor Raj Sandhu, congratulating Julie Kumar, Manager of HR with South Simcoe Police, and the rest of the Group for their work - which included setting up a multicultural display highlighting Spring holidays and festivals, in the large display case at the Bradford Library. "I feel that when the different cultures come together, we learn from each other... I'm proud to be Canadian, but I'm also proud of my heritage."

The display at the Library is expected to change, as other communities and groups submit items - not just heritage and religion, said Action Group member Naomi Hoffenberg. "We want to expand to other communities whose voices have been silent - disabilities, LGBT."

As for the map, by the time the project wraps up on May 23, "I hope to see 30,000 dots on this," said Deputy Mayor James Ledue, referring to the total population of Bradford West Gwillimbury.

Anyone interested in joining the BWG Diversity Action

Group is asked to email DiversityinBWG@gmail.com or see BWGDiversityonFacebook.com.

The Diversity Action Group is also hosting an essay contest for Youth ages 10 to 15, and Adults ages 16 & older, on "What Diversity Means to Me". The 500 word essays can be emailed to DiversityinBWG@gmail.com (with name, age, group and contact info) or handed to any Action Group member. There will be prizes for the winners.

Top right, South Simcoe Police HR Mgr. Julie Kumar, Group co-ordinator.

At right, cultural display at the Library, focusing on Spring holidays



Scandinavian Spring Bazaar!

Spring into Spring, with the annual Scandinavian Spring Bazaar in Cookstown. On Friday, March 27 from 3 to 9 p.m. and Saturday, March 28 from 9 a.m. to noon, drop by the Laestadian Lutheran Church at 5579 County Rd. 27 for a delicious assortment of Scandinavian breads and treats. Friday includes a dinner in the cafe, with luscious desserts, and an evening of Spring Music, at 5 and 7 p.m. On Saturday, drop by for Brunch. All welcome.



Bradford
West
Gwillimbury

TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS

Members of the public are invited to attend all Council, Committee of the Whole and other Committee meetings. Meeting dates, times, and agendas are available from the Town's website at www.townofbwg.com.

For further information or to request a deputations, please contact the Clerk's Division.

Regular Meetings of Council & Committee of the Whole – Council Chambers, 425 Holland St. W.

- Tues. April 7 @ 7:00 p.m. – BWG Library & Cultural Centre, Zima Room

Special Meeting of Council - Closed Meeting

- Tues. April 14 @ 2:00 p.m. – Finance Training, 305 Barrie St., Engineering Boardroom

UPCOMING BOARD/COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Library Board

- Mon. Mar 23 @ 7:00 p.m. – BWG Library & Cultural Centre, Boardroom., 425 Holland St. W

Committee of Adjustment

- Wed. Mar 25 @ 6:30 p.m. – BWG Library & Cultural Centre, Zima Room., 425 Holland St. W

NOTICES

Exciting News from the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury!

Effective March 16, 2015, the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury Request for Tenders, Proposals, Quotations, Pre-Qualifications, Information and other solicitation documents will be advertised and available for electronic download from www.biddingco.com/townofbwg

We will continue with our current "Competitive Bids" portal at www.townofbwg.com until our launch on March 16, 2015. After such date, solicitation documents will no longer be available for download on the Town's website.

Henderson Memorial Park Detailed Design Public Information Open House

Monday, March 30, 2015
4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

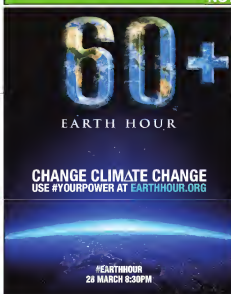
BWG Leisure Centre, 471 West Park Ave
Community Corner of the main lobby

The public is invited to attend an open house to view the detailed design drawings of phase 1 of Henderson Memorial Park. There will be an opportunity to ask questions of the consultant and make comments.

Mike O'Hare
905-775-2162

Email: mohare@townofbwg.com

NOTICES



Canada Revenue Agency Volunteer Tax Preparation Clinic

NEED A HAND TO PREPARE YOUR TAX RETURN?

If you are unable to prepare your income tax and benefit return yourself, the CVPTP may be able to help you.

The CVPTP is available to any **eligible** taxpayer.

This may include:

- low income individuals and social assistance recipients;
- newcomers to Canada;
- seniors; and
- students

Volunteers **do not** prepare tax returns for complex situations such as:

- returns for deceased persons;
- Individuals who file for bankruptcy;
- self-employed individuals;
- Individuals who report capital gains or losses; or
- Individuals who report employment expenses, or business or rental income and expenses.

Bradford West Gwillimbury Public Library is an official clinic site for Income Tax Preparation Assistance. To register for assistance please ask at the **Information Desk** or call 905-775-3328 X 6109.

Want to know more about the CVPTP?

For more information about this free service or to get information on community organizations in your area that participate in the CVPTP, call us at 1-800-959-8281 or go to www.cra.gc.ca/volunteer.



BRADFORD
WEST GWILLIMBURY
PUBLIC LIBRARY

425 Holland Street West
905-775-3328 X 6109
bradford.library.on.ca

BWG's Community Clean-up Day

Saturday April 11, 2015
9am - 12pm

Register your group or individually at the Department of Leisure Services, by Friday April 10th, call 905-775-5359 ext.5102, or email events@townofbwg.com.

Beat the Silent Killer Carbon Monoxide Prevention

Common Sources of Carbon Monoxide

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- Water heater
- Car
- Generator

Other Sources

- Stoves
- Boilers
- Radiators
- Space heaters
- Portable generators

For more information, call 905-775-3328 X 6109 or visit www.bwg.ca/carbonmonoxide

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905-775-5366

ENGINEERING
305 BARRIE ST. UNIT 2
P.O. BOX 419 L3Z 2A8
905-771-2055

FINANCE
81 HOLLAND ST. E.
PO BOX 190 L3Z 2A4
905-775-5303

FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES
75 BILDING DR.
PO BOX 1221 L3Z 2B6
905-775-7311

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905-775-5359

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2541 LITE YR.
PO BOX 180 L3Z 2A8
905-775-5368

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:
www.townofbwg.com

St. Patrick's Day, at the Bradford Legion

LEGION from Page 4

Remember to wear green and gold! The Legion is located at 115 Back St.



Bert Hogg, left, and Sam Neilly dressed up for St. Patrick's Day at the Lefroy-Belle Ewart Legion last Saturday.

Bruce Andrew Stewart, award-winning Elvis Tribute artist, will be appearing at the Bradford Legion on Saturday, April 18, for an "Elvis Show and Dance". Tickets are only \$15 per person; available at 905-775-5025. Doors open at 7 p.m. For more information, see www.rockingtothelvis.com

The Legion's Ladies' Auxiliary hosts a Spring Tea on Sunday, April 26 from 2 to 4 p.m.

3 p.m. Coffee, Tea and Desserts will be available. There is no charge. The LA will also be celebrating Earth Day, by planting seeds in compostable flower pots, that can be placed directly in the garden, once the ground is frost-free! All welcome!

Friday Night Social Time! Every Friday at 6 p.m. Culinary Arts Students of Bradford District High School serve up dinner for a moderate fee at the Legion, followed by music and cannerie. The Public is welcome to attend.



Dancers with the Miller School of Irish Dance performed at Churchill Irish Church on March 15, for St. Patrick's Day



Leadership Team at W.H. Day Elementary School in Bradford, with food donations.

The shelves at the Helping Hand Food Bank in Bradford can get very bare at this time of year, between the Christmas and Easter food drives. That's one reason why students at W.H. Day Elementary School accepted a Food Drive Challenge last week.

The in-school challenge was led by the student Leadership Team, which sent out a checklist to every classroom, listing the "most needed" items - front range and breakfast cereals, to baby food and diapers. The drive started on March 9, and was set to end on March 13 - but by the Thursday, students had brought in only 300 items.

A note was sent to the parents that evening, asking for support, and the school community responded. By noon the next day, the pile had grown to 35 shopping bags and over 17 boxes - 800 items in all, plus about \$30 in cash.

"The need is great," said Betty Mulhern, parent organizer and food bank volunteer, noting that nearly 400 people rely on the Helping Hand to help them bridge the income gap caused by unemployment, illness, fixed incomes and rising prices.

Helping Hand Food Bank, at 123 Moore St., is open 3 days a week - Mon. and Weds. from 1 to 2 p.m., and Fridays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Cash donations are used to purchase perishables or needed supplies; donations of \$10 or more receive a tax receipt.

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Lacing up for Southlake

The Province provides funding for hospitals like Southlake Regional Health Centre – but that funding envelope does not cover all costs. In particular, it doesn't cover the cost of new and replacement medical equipment.

For that, hospitals still have to fundraise.

The Southlake Regional Health Centre Foundation relies on its community supporters and volunteers to help meet the gap in funding, through events that include a Gala, and the annual Run or Walk for Southlake, presented by Nature's Emporium.

Many of those involved in the fundraising efforts use the opportunity to "give back" to a hospital that has provided life-giving care for themselves, or their families – that was there "when people need it the most," said Steve Hinder, Chair of the Run or Walk.

Hinder is one of those volunteers. "Knowing that we're helping people – that's all it takes. That's the paycheck," he said by video, at the kick-off for this year's Run or Walk. "Your gift can transform a life."

"Help Transform a Life" was the theme of the launch, held at Newmarket's Spero Ristorante on March 12 – an opportunity to thank supporters, volunteers and sponsors, and encourage the community to participate in this year's Run/Walk.

The 2015 Run or Walk for Southlake will take place on Sunday, April 26 – at a new venue, the Stronach Aurora Recreation Complex, newly opened

at Wellington Ave. and Leslie St. Registration will begin at 7:30 a.m., Opening Ceremonies at 8:30 a.m.

There is something for level of runner or walker. The 10K Run will start at 9 a.m., the 5 and 2.5K Run or Walk at 9:15 a.m., for children 8 and under. Teams and individuals can

register or pledge at runforsouthlake.ca. The goal this time is to raise \$175,000, over and above the registration fees – which only cover the cost of the Run or Walk. If that target is reached, the Run or Walk for Southlake will have raised over \$1 million since it began in 2002, as the

"Bob Hartwell Challenge." Southlake Ambassador Jamie Pimek was on hand for the kick-off. Diagnosed with colon cancer at the age of 31, he is now in remission, and grateful "to have the facility so close to home... and just the fantastic people I encountered along the way."

He plans to participate in the Run or Walk, and so far has recruited 40 people as part of his team, the Komercia Timberlofts – "and a lot more to come."

"We've all heard that it takes a village to raise a child," said Neila Poscente, CEO and President of the hospital Foundation. "It takes a community to make an event successful. You're going to be a part of taking us over that million dollar threshold."

"Together we will transform lives." Southlake Ambassador Jamie Pimek will be participating in the Nature's Emporium Run or Walk for Southlake.



CNIB Funspiel at the Stroud Curling Club

The second annual CNIB Funspiel, held at the Stroud Curling Club on March 7, slightly bent curling rules.

"Because we have lots of beginners, and visually impaired, we put 5 on a team," explained Jodie Hollett, chair of CGAT Community Giving Activity Team for CNIB.

And since the visually-impaired can't sweep, and can't bring their Dog Guides onto the ice, "others chip in" to help out.

Jerry Smith has been totally blind for 45 years, the result of glaucoma. Blindness didn't stop Smith from building a 29-year career in California, running a cafeteria and vending machine business.

Since he retired, 15 years ago, he has volunteered for CNIB, serving as an Ambassador. "I do a lot of volunteer speaking for CNIB," Smith said. "We also teach a peer support program for people who have recently lost vision."

Last year was the first time Smith tried curling, at the inaugural CNIB Funspiel. "It's like a giant game of lawn bowling," he said – but on ice. "It's a fun day."

The Funspiel guaranteed 2 games, a Chili lunch, raffle, and fun "Closest to the Ramp Rools" competition, with fabulous prizes donated by the Community.

In all, 77 curlers on 19 teams signed up for the 2nd annual fundraiser. Last year the event drew 14 teams, and raised over \$4000.

"Our goal today is \$5000," said Hollett – a goal that was achieved thanks to the community

support, and the enthusiasm of participants. "We had a lot of returnees. Obviously they enjoyed themselves!"

For more information on services offered by CNIB, upcoming events, and volunteer opportunities, see www.cnib.ca or contact Jodie Hollett at jodie.hollett@sympatico.ca



Jerry Smith and team mate at CNIB Funspiel.

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BRADFORD 67 John Street West

Shake it, for One Walk to Conquer Cancer

Joe Mama 2, a team entered in this year's Shoppers Drug Mart One Walk to Conquer Cancer, hosts its 6th Annual Shake Your Booties for All Cancers dinner and dance at the Portuguese Cultural Centre, on Saturday, March 28. The evening includes cocktails at 6, dinner at 7 p.m., a Silent Auction, and lots of food, fun, prizes and dancing! Tickets are \$38 per person, and the event always sells out.

For tickets, call Allison at 905-960-3454 or Sara, 905-836-3213.

To sponsor any of the walkers, or team Joe Mama 2, visit the Toronto 2015 One Walk to Conquer Cancer website, at t15.onewalk.ca. Formerly the Weekend to End Women's Cancers, the new One Walk is a one-day fundraiser for the Princess Margaret Cancer Centre.

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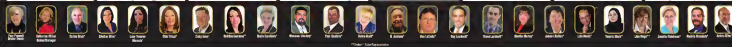
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March Break & Book Sales @ the Bradford Library!

The Bradford Public Library, 425 Holland St. West, is offering fun for

kids and families every day of March Break. Friday, March 20 – Come to the

Drop-in Pajama Party, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., free, for all ages. Crafts, activities, stories and a cup of hot chocolate! The free family movie at 1:30 p.m. is *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, Very Bad, No Good Day (PG)*.

The next **Open Mic** night takes place Thursday, March 26, with sign-in starting at 7 p.m., on stage performances in the Zima Room at 7:10 p.m. Bring your instrument, songs, your voice, your poetry and perform for 3 to 10 minutes – or just bring your ears, and come to listen.

The Friends of the BWG Library are holding their **Spring Book Sale**, Friday to Sunday, March 27 to 29. The sale starts with a Preview on Friday evening, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Admission is \$10 per family, for first pick of thousands of donated books. The Sale continues 9:30 a.m.

to 5:30 p.m. on March 28, and 1:30 to 4 p.m. on March 29 – admission is free! Donations for the book sale are welcomed; please,

no textbooks, moldy books, or Readers Digest Condensed Books!

Youth Entrepreneurs Workshop Series, for Youth ages 13 to 19. Learn the power of entrepreneurship and what it takes to be successful, from leading business and real

estate expert Shanna McFarlane. April 17 – *Sales, Systems and Multiple Revenue Streams*. May 21 – *Building Your Business*. From 7 to 8:30 p.m. Register for one, or both, at the Library. For information, contact Shanna McFarlane at info@shannamcfarlane.com or 1-855-474-2662, or visit www.shannamcfarlane.com

Art with Darlene, on Tuesdays starting April 7 – from 4:30 to 6 p.m. for ages 6-10, and 6:30 to 8 p.m. for ages 11 and up, in the Blue Room. Cost is \$70 for all 4 weeks; \$20 per week. Includes all materials. Pre-register at Borrower Services with Payment. For information call 905-775-3328 ext. 6100. **Photo:** John Lucas, 5 in Jr. Fire Chief hat, and Julian, 3, make crafts at the Library.



entrepreneurship and what it takes to be successful, from leading business and real

The BWG Friends of the Library BOOK SALE

PREVIEW SALE:

Friday, March 27 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm
ADMISSION \$10 PER FAMILY

Be among the first to purchase from thousands of donated items. The sale takes place in the Zima Room of the BWG Public Library.

BOOK SALE:

Saturday, March 28 9:30 am – 5:30 pm
ADMISSION FREE

Sunday, March 29 1:30 pm – 4:00 pm
ADMISSION FREE



425 HOLLAND ST. WEST
905-775-3328 EXT. 6100
www.bradford.library.on.ca



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Bradford District High School drama students – the cast of “Jimmy the Anti-Christ”, rehearsing for this year’s Sears Drama Festival.

Following dreams at the Sears Drama Fest

By Majia Peters, Co-op student

You are standing at centre stage. The audience is on the edge of their seats, watching, waiting for you to speak... For some, this might sound like a nightmare scenario. For Drama students, it is a dream.

The Sears Drama Festival is a competition for high schools across Ontario, that has been allowing drama students to achieve their dreams for the past 69 years.

Three hundred secondary schools will be participating this year; 12 top productions will make it to the Provincial Showcase, taking place at Sir John A. MacDonald Secondary School in Hamilton, May 6-9. Students direct, act, fill stagecraft roles, build sets and design costumes – and in some cases, write the plays.

They start at the District level of competition, where they are adjudicated by judges with a background in theatre and drama. The best productions move on to the Regionals – and the best of the best, to the Provincial Showcase.

Bradford District High School has been involved with the Sears Drama Festival since 1965, making this its fiftyth year of participation. This year's production was “Jimmy the Anti-Christ”, by Keith I. Powell, author of 8 plays that use comedy to explore serious themes.

In Jimmy the Anti-Christ, High school student “Jimmy” endures the taunts of family and friends, who wonder why he would decide that he is the Anti-Christ. Substitute “Gay” for “Anti-Christ” and the play takes on a whole new resonance.

The play was chosen by student Directors, Judah Middel and Nathan Griffiths, who wanted to explore issues of acceptance. This is only the 4th time that BDHS' presentation has been directed by students, and BDHS teacher Steven Bainborough noted, “The two of them have set up a brilliant cast truly capturing all of the characters and portraying them beautifully... I don't want to give too much away about the play, but after all the twists and turns everything turns out well in the end.”

On February 27, the students took their production to the District competition at Bear Creek Secondary School in Barrie – but sadly, were not chosen to go on to the West Regional Competition.

“We may not have moved on to Regionals, but we're all proud of our performance. We made some people laugh and that's all that really matters to us,” said Janille Lopez, a cast member.

The cast continues to rehearse, hoping to be able to perform in front of a school audience next month.

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The real March Break

March Break has its origins in "Sugaring Off", the time of year when pioneering families would head to the bush and, as long as the sap was flowing, work together turning maple sap into syrup and sugar.

It was maple sugar that was the desired end product for the pioneers. Without refrigeration, syrup would quickly spoil – but the blocks of maple sugar could be stored indefinitely. Pounded, they yielded a granular sugar that was an inexpensive substitute for imported white cane sugar – and that could be transformed back into syrup, with the simple addition of water.

A single mature maple tree can produce 80 litres of sap. In a good year – enough to make 2 litres of maple syrup. At the Kortright Centre for Conservation, staff demonstrated the pioneer "3-kettle" method of transferring sap into syrup, a 24-hour process that required round-the-clock monitoring, to ensure that the fires didn't go out or the syrup burn.

To produce maple sugar would take 3 days of stoking the fires and stirring the kettles, and it took an expert eye to determine when the final mixture was ready to be poured into the moulds.

The Sugarbush Maple Syrup Festival takes place until April 6 at both Bruce's Mill Conservation Area, 3291 Steffville Rd., and the Kortright Centre for Conservation, 9550 Pine Valley Drive south of Major Mackenzie. Special activities during March Break and on weekends include guided Tours of the sugar bush, demonstrations, horse-drawn wagon rides, pancakes and maple syrup. For more information, including admission rates, see www.maplesyrupfest.com



be accompanied by an adult. RSVP at k.brygidy@torca.on.ca Space is limited to this unique opportunity.

Maple Syrup by Lamplight, at the Kortright Centre for Conservation, 9550 Pine Valley Drive, on Saturday, March 21, from 7 to 9 p.m. A guided twilight tour of Kortright's sugar bush, a taste of real maple syrup, a warm campfire and fireside treat – \$12 for adults, \$10 members, \$6 for children and seniors (\$5 members), \$30 for families. Please RSVP at 416-667-6295 or see www.kortright.org

The Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority holds Spring Tonic at the Tiffin Centre for Conservation, 8195 - 49th Line of Esea Twp, near Utopia. Saturday and Sunday, April 11 and 12 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., enjoy a Pancake, Maple Syrup and Sausage Breakfast served up by the Rotary Club of Barrie – plus horse-drawn wagon rides, re-enactors, tours of the sugar bush, live music, crafts, face-painting, and the friendly animals of Zoo To You. \$10 adults, \$5 for children ages 2-12.

Photo: Sean Dineley demonstrates the Pioneer 3-kettle method at Kortright.

Looking for things to do with the kids? The Elman W. Campbell Museum, 134 Main St., South in Newmarket, has Museum Mayhem, a free drop-in program March 20-21 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. For information call 905-953-5314 or email elmanmuseum@rogers.com

The Simcoe County Museum, at 1151 Hwy. 26 north of Barrie, offers the interactive Game Over? Exhibit, which looks at video gaming in Simcoe County. \$6 for adults, \$5 for Seniors and Students, \$4 for children.

And there's always the ROM, the Ontario Science Centre, Casa Loma, Canada Blooms, etc. Photo: Kids' Cooking Class at Simply for Life, on March 15 - Kaitlyn, 9 and Kayla, 7 make a healthy Pineapple-Banana Smoothie.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

The McMichael Canadian Art Collection in Kleinburg, presents **Vanishing Ice: Alpine and Polar Landscapes in Art, 1775-2012**. This stunning and provocative exhibit intertwines science, history and art – focusing on the beauty and fragility of Earth's frozen frontiers through the eyes of artists, writers and naturalists. At the McMichael until April 26; **Northern Narratives** is a parallel exhibition from the McMichael's collection of aboriginal and non-aboriginal artwork, on display to May 17.

On March 28, at 11:30 a.m., guest speaker at the McMichael will be Ryan Harris, senior underwater archaeologist with Parks Canada, on the recent discovery of the **Franklin Expedition ship, The Erebus**.

Inisfil Artist Jeannette Luchese has a one-woman show, **Deja Vu - Reconstructing the Perception**, featuring paintings, sculpture and sound art, at the Aurora Cultural Centre, 22 Church St. in Aurora until April 25. The gallery is open Tues., Thurs. and Sat. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Weds. from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Admission is free.

House Concert with Stephen Fearing, member of the JUNO award-winning band **the Red Kings**, and solo recording artist. Concert takes place at "Peter & Marlene's House," 2226 Richard St. in Inisfil, on Sunday, March 22, at 2 p.m. Minimum recommended donation per ticket is \$25 per person. To RSVP, call 705-436-3927 or musicupclose@rogers.com For

details, see www.musicupclose.com

The Vagina Monologues will be on stage at The Circle Theatre in Alliston, 19 Victoria St. East, March 27 and 28 – a benefit for My Sister's Place Shelter for abused women and their children. Performances take place at 8 p.m. on Friday, and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Saturday. Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door, available at The Circle Theatre or from any cast member. Doors open 1 hour before the show begins; come early to enter a raffle. For more info, see Facebook.com

South Simcoe Theatre presents **Hats! The Musical**, by Marcia Milgrom Dodge and Anthony Dodge, with music by various composers. A 49.99 year old woman reluctantly faces the Big 5-0, until she discovers life begins at 50. Inspired by the Red Hat Society, this delightful spring treat will be on stage at Cookstown's Old Town Hall Theatre, 1 Hamilton St., from April 9 to 26. Performances at 8 p.m. on Thurs., Fri. and Sat., and 2 p.m. on Sun. For information see www.southsimcoetheatre.com; for tickets call the Box Office at 705-458-4432.

The Waterloo Regional Police Male Chorus performs at the Totterham Community Centre, Saturday, April 18 at 7 p.m. – hosted by Trinity United Church of Beeton. Tickets are \$15 each, available at Nescent's Esthetics in Totterham, Hava Java, Beeton Barber Shop and Beeton Animal Hospital in Beeton; and Herbert's in Alliston, or call 905-729-0987.

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March Break

Pfaff Auto Baby Car Seat Clinics

Pfaff Automotive Partners and Baby Car Seat Installers, a Toronto-based company, have teamed up to host monthly car seat installation clinics, on the first Saturday of each month. The clinics are designed to help families attain the highest level of protection from their vehicle restraint systems, and ensure travel safety for kids. The next Clinic will take place at Pfaff Auto Newmarket on Saturday, April 4. The clinics are free, but parents are asked to make an appointment at pfaffauto.com/about-us/pfaff-car-seat-clinics



community listings

MEETINGS

AL-ANON Meets Wednesdays, 8 p.m. Holy Marys of January Church basement.

167 Essa St. in Bradford. For information, www.al-anon.alatone.org, wso@al-anon.org or call 1-888-4AL-ANON.
HELP FOR IMMIGRANTS: Bradford Immigrant & Com-

munity Services (BICS) located at 11 Holland St. East offers English Language classes for Newcomers to Canada, Settlement Assistance, Integration into the Canadian School System; Parenting Workshops, Translation and Interpretation services, information and referral, advocacy and more. 905-775-3343 or see www.bradfordimmigrant.com

BWG COMMUNITY MEAL: BWG Community Initiatives hosts a hot meal at 5:30 p.m. every Friday evening, at Bradford United Church, 66 Barrie St. in Bradford. All welcome - doors open at 5 p.m. Free.
ST. MICHAEL'S UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH: 721 Simcoe Rd., Bradford. Fundraising perogies and cabbage rolls sale every Saturday only, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Info call the church 905-551-1651.

Coats for Kids closing for the season

Coats for Kids, located downtown in St. Mary's "A" Hall off Frederick St. in Bradford, has closed for the season. Families in desperate need of gently-used children's winterwear can contact Catherine Snow at coats4kids@live.com

Club hosts a Dance at the ANAF Hall, 7 George St. in Barrie. Tickets at the door - \$15 members, \$22 guests includes Line Dancing instruction at 7:30 p.m., ballroom dancing from 8 p.m. to midnight, and a substantial late evening snack. For info call 705-721-0590 or see www.bondbogardenclub.com. Tickets to the Annual Gala, on May 23, are now on sale.

ROAST BEEF DINNER: at Bradford United Church, 66 Barrie St. in Bradford. Continuous seating from 4:30 to 7 p.m. Tickets are \$16 adults, \$8 for kids, at the door or order in advance at 905-775-7268. Seniors can call to arrange for take-out meals to be delivered or to bring home call the church before 3 p.m. on March 20 to arrange.

UKRAINIAN EASTER EGG WORKSHOP: At the Elman Campbell Museum, 134 Main St., South Newmarket, at 1:30 p.m. Suitable for ages 5 and up; kids under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Cost is \$10 per person. Pre-register at 905-953-5314.

INMISSIT HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETS: At the Knock Schoolhouse Heritage Site, 10 Sideroad and 9th Line of Inmissit, 2 p.m. Guest speaker is Jason Verkaik of Carron Farms, on being a "Marsh Mucker" and what is involved in farming in the Holland Marsh. For info, call Marj Mossman, 905-483-1742.

MON., MAR. 23

TEC-WE-GWILL WOMEN'S INSTITUTE MEETS: The Tec-We-Gwill Women's Institute meets at the Tec-We-Gwill WI Hall in Newton Robinson at noon. Bring your own sandwich; the lunch committee will provide coffee, tea and dessert. Guest speaker is a representative of My Sister's Place shelter for abused women and their children. For more information call Glenn 705-458-1510 or Sylvia, 705-435-7736.

THURS., MAR. 26

BOND HED GARDEN CLUB MEETS: At the Danube Seniors Leisure Centre, 715 Simcoe Rd. in Bradford at 7:30 p.m. - all welcome. Guest speaker is Katie Dawson on New and Nearly New Annuals. Refreshments.

FRI., MAR. 27

SCANDINAVIAN SPRING BAZAAR: The LaSalle Lutheran Church in Cookstown, 5579 County Rd. 27, hosts a Scandinavian Spring Bazaar, 8 to 9 p.m. on Friday, and 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday. A fabulous assortment of Scandinavian breads and treats, dinner on Friday, Brunch on Saturday. On Friday evening, enjoy a Spring Music Program, at 5 and 7 p.m. All welcome.

SAT., MAR. 28

TREASURE SALE: Bradford United Church at 66 Barrie St. hosts another treasure sale, 8 to 11 a.m. Treasures unearthed from cupboards, closets, attics and garages can be yours for a donation to the church. All welcome! Rent your own "Yard Sale" table for \$15; call the church at 905-775-7268 to reserve, or for tickets call 905-775-7268.

EUCHE PARTY: Bradford United Church at 66 Barrie St. hosts a Euche Party, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Tickets \$10 per person, for a social afternoon of cards, refreshments and prizes. For tickets call 905-775-7268.

BWG LOCAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION SHOW & TELL: Bring those family treasures and mystery items to the general meeting of the Local History Association of the Bradford Public Library, 425 Holland St. West. Theme is Show & Tell. All welcome.

NVCA FORESTRY MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP ON EMERALD ASH BORER: Learn more about the pest that has destroyed 10's of millions of ash trees in Ontario alone - and how to prepare. March 28, from 9 to 11:30 a.m. at the Tiffin Conservation Area, 8156-8th Line Essa Twp. RSVP to www.nvca.on.ca or call 705-424-1479.

FRI., APR. 3

GOOD FRIDAY EASTER EGG HUNT AT BRADFORD GREENHOUSES: Use one coin to hunt for chocolate eggs at Bradford Greenhouses Garden Gallery on Yonge St. in Bradford, starting at 9 a.m. Donations of non-perishable food for the Helping Hand Food Bank welcomed.

Lenten Series continues

The Bradford Ministerial hosts a worship and preaching series every Weds. evening during Lent - an opportunity for Christians of different denominations to worship together during this holy time of year. Each church will host a service in their own tradition, and a visiting cleric from another Bradford church will preach a short sermon. Coming up: March 25, Trinity Anglican Church in Bradford, 7:30 p.m. the Rev. Richard Bodini, Holland Marsh Christian Reformed Church, preaching, April 1 - Holy Week, Holland Marsh Christian Reformed Church, 7:30 p.m. The Rev. Daniel Graves, Trinity Anglican Church, preaching.

Lent, a time of renewal through penitence, prayer, fasting, almsgiving, reading and study of Scripture, culminates in Holy Week, leading up to Easter.

Perogy Supper



St. Michael's Ukrainian Orthodox Church, 721 Simcoe Road in Bradford, is hosting another great Perogy Dinner this Saturday, March 21, from 4 to 7 p.m. Enjoy dinner of home-made potato and cheddar perogies, sausage, salad, dessert, tea and coffee for \$10, \$12 or \$14 (for small, regular or large meals). Side dishes - sausage, borscht, cabbage rolls - are also available, for a nominal fee. All welcome. Tickets at the door, for this fundraiser for St. Michael's.

PLACES OF WORSHIP

Springdale Christian Reformed Church
1466 Sideroad #5, Bradford
905-775-3731
Sundays 10:00 a.m., 8:00 p.m.
Sunday School & Nursery
Pastor Paul VanStrien
www.springdalecncr.net

Bond Head United Church
88 east of Hwy. 27
Service 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School Available
905-775-2512
bondheadunitedchurch.ca

Trinity Anglican Church
62 Church St., Bradford
(Corner of Church & James St.)
Sunday Service 10 a.m.
Sunday School Available
905-775-2200
trinityanglicanchurchbradford.com

St. John's Presbyterian
2940 - 10th Sideroad
(8th Line & Middleton St.)
905-775-7274
Sunday Service 11:00 a.m.
Sunday School and Nursery provided.
stjohnsbradford@telus.ca

Ahsan-Uddin Muslim Jama'at
Friday Prayer Service 1:30pm at "Eudora" Apartment
3999 10 Sideroad
In the heart of Bradford
For further details, contact:
Imam Bilal (647-963-9032)
ahsan@ahsan.org

St. Michael's Ukrainian Orthodox Church
721 Simcoe Rd. Bradford
Bilingual Services
Liturgy Sunday & Feast
Days 10:00 am
Phone 905-775-0105

Holland Marsh Christian Reformed Church
18905 Dufferin St., R.R. #2 Newmarket
Sundays 10:00 am & 6:00 pm
Sunday School & Nursery with service
Mid-week youth & adult programs
Rev. Richard Bodini
905-775-7291
E.hollandmarshcncr@rogers.com

St. Catherine of Alexandria Catholic Church
Parish Office
10 Heintz St. Bond Head, Sunday Eastward
8:30am (Ukrainian), 11:00am (English)
905-775-6392
info@scathineofalexandria.ca

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
53 Miller Park Ave., Bradford
905-775-3412
Sunday Service:
10:00 a.m.

Holy Marys of Jan Catholic Church
167 Essa St. Bradford 905-775-0065
Sat. 5:00 pm - Sun. 8:30 am, 10 am, 11:30 am, & 6:30 pm
Confessions
1/2 hour before Sunday Mass.

Bradford United Church
66 Barrie St.,
905-775-7268
Service - 10 a.m.
Sunday School Available
www.bradfordunited.com

The Baha'i World Faith
905-551-2219
www.Baha'i.org

Bradford Community Church
Mid-week small group
905-775-8266, located on the S.E. corner of Hwy #11 & Conc. #9
Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Nursery - Birth to 3 yrs. Children 4-12 yrs

Riverbide Bible Chapel
905-836-1798
#20246 (Southwest (North of Hwy 11))
11:00 am - Family Bible Study
1:00 pm Afternoon Service
7:00 pm Wed. - Prayer - Bible Study

Greater Life Community Church
The Church in the Library
426 Holland St. W, Bradford
Christian Education: 10:30 am
Morning Worship: 10:00 am
(647)711-7649
www.greaterlifeonline.com

SAT., MAR. 21

ST. PATRICK'S PARTY - NEWFIE STYLE: Taking place at the Newfie Legion, 115 Back St., hosted by Alice's Home-Made and Newfie Corner, 7 p.m. \$25 per person, \$45 per couple. Includes Irish shew in a bread bowl, with Caesar Salad; and dancing to DJ Bonnie at 8:30 p.m. For tickets call 905-775-6245 or 704-424-9378.
WELCOME SPRING DANCE: The Barrie Ballroom Dance



Sports

Porto Dragon Force in Town!



From left, BWG Councillors Raj Sandhu and Mark Contois, Deputy Mayor James Leduc, DF Academy coach Ricardo Frey Ramos, Mayor Rob Keffer, Porto Ambassador Fernando Gomes, Councillor Gary Baynes, DF Academy co-founder Nelson Rocha, coach Jose Violante, Councillor Peter Ferragine, Coach Antonio Gouveia, and Academy co-founder Luis Andre, March 14 at the Portuguese Cultural Centre of Bradford, for the launch of the DF Academy of Soccer, and a Dragon Force March Break Camp.

DFC Academy is a new school of Soccer designed for kids from the ages of 4 to 17, that will be playing out of the Bradford Sports Dome, and this summer, the Portuguese Cultural Centre soccer fields. Founders Luis Andre and Nelson Rocha launched the Academy to offer kids a higher level of training and skill-building, based on the model of European football clubs like FC Porto and its Dragon Force program.

The ties with FC Porto are not only philosophical. At the March 14 launch of the Academy, held at the Portuguese Cultural Centre of Bradford, Porto representatives were the honourees guests - not only celebrating the start of the DFC Academy, but supporting the week-long Dragon Force International Camp, taking place at the Sports Dome during March Break.

FC Porto Ambassador Fernando Gomes, Ricardo Frey Ramos - General Manager of the Dragon Force program, and coaches Antonio Gouveia and Jose Violante were welcomed by Bradford's West Gwillimbury Mayor Rob Keffer and members of Council,

and new Acting Director of Leisure Services Terry Forhan.

The FC Porto representatives "want to keep in touch, and watch the community," said Andre, praising the Dragon Force model as not only providing education and soccer training, but building citizenship. He thanked FC Porto, and the Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury for their support.

"This is our first step," he said. "It's been a very interesting journey, but definitely a wonderful journey... It all began with a simple idea." The idea? To provide the kind of youth training and education offered by Porto's Dragon Force programs, which now reach an estimated 3,000

kids across Portugal, here in Canada. "The vision is there, with Porto's guidance. It's not just about developing players. It's about developing people. That's the most important," said Andre.

For more information, see www.dfacademy.ca

FC Porto Ambassador Fernando Gomes, 2-time winner of the Golden Boot, with Councillors Sandhu, left, and Ferragine.



Aquatics Staff Darnell Challenge winners

Bradford Lions Aquatics Centre staff, at the Bradford West Gwillimbury Leisure Centre, have been recognized for their commitment to The Lifesaving Society of Canada.

The Aquatics Centre was 1st in the 2014 Darnell Challenge Cup categories of Municipalities, and Single Facility. The Darnell Challenge Cup recognizes commitment, through the mobilization of staff and volunteers, to raising funds for "Water Smart" drowning prevention programs.

Staff at the BWG Aquatics

Centre participated in Lifesaving Society events that included April Pools Day, Lifesaving Society "500 Metre Swim for 500 Lives" event, Summer Olympics, and a Carrotfest "Spin for Prizes". Aquatics staff raised over \$2,500 for the Lifesaving Society and Drowning Prevention. "The Town of BWG is very proud of the achievement of its Aquatics team in earning this award," said Acting Director of Leisure Services Terry Foran. "Since the opening of the Leisure Centre, over 730 registrants participated in leadership courses that promoted drowning prevention."

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Local League

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Simple First Aid offered

Standard First Aid Courses are offered by SIMPLE First Aid, a Partner of the Canadian Red Cross, at Bradford Alliance Church, 758 Simcoe Road, on the following dates:

• Saturday & Sunday, March 28-29; Weds, and Thurs, April 8-9; Mon, and Tues, April 13-14; Sat, and Sun, April 25-26; Thurs, and Fri, April 30 - May 1.

To sign up contact Anita Horlings, Instructor Trainer, at 905-775-8024 or

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Hydro Pole fire in Bradford

Hydro One and PowerStream have been dealing with a series of localized black-outs, caused by salt build-up on equipment. Salt spray from the roads builds up on wires and transformers; moisture in the air can cause sparking, resulting in transformer fires and burning hydro poles. Normally, the utility companies carry out preventative cleaning of equipment - but this winter has been too cold to wash off the wires.

Bradford saw a localized power outage on Bridge St. on March 15, due to a pole fire. The road was also temporarily closed.

Photo by Alain Veron, Freelance.

Bowling for Kids Sake in Bradford

Bowl for Kids Sake is a fundraiser for Big Brothers Big Sisters of York - which provides mentoring for kids, both through one-on-one partnering of "Bigs" and "Littles", and in-school and after school programs.

Bowl for Kids Sake takes place Sunday, March 29 in Bradford, from 1 to 3 p.m. at The Bradford Underground Bowl (formerly Bradford Bowl). For more information, or to sign up your team, see highroadsbiggirls.ca or call the Bowling Hotline at 905-726-2149 ext. 324.

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Legals

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS IN THE ESTATE OF DOROTHY EILEEN LOWE

All claims against the Estate of DOROTHY EILEEN LOWE, late of 15 Prince Street, Bradford, Ontario, N8T 9B7 who died on or about the 58th day of December, 2014, must be filed with the executor on or before the 31st day of April, 2015, thereafter the Estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims then filed, and the Estate will not be liable for any claim the undersigned shall not then have notice.

DATED at Bradford this 4th day of March, 2015.

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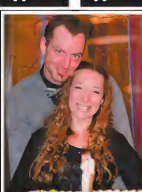
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Engagements Engagements



Lora and Ted Breiland and Nelly and Nick Gallo are thrilled to announce the engagement of Jaime and Nicholas

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we're engaged
Roger and Linda Rutledge of Bond Head happily announce the engagement of their daughter Katie to Nathan Tokarchuk, son of Chris and Sharon Tokarchuk of Ottawa. Wedding to take place August 6, 2015.

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Cards of Thanks Cards of Thanks

WOW!

Describes the 70th Birthday Party my family gave me on March 19th! Thanks to everything they did and thanks to family and friends for the cards, flowers, gifts and food brought to the party.
Thanks to Arnie, Mielka and Georgie (photographer) who helped Jean in the kitchen and especially to my 3 cute granddaughters, Alexis, Brooke, and Rubie.
- Gladys Fieldhouse -

Thank You

We Extend heartfelt thanks to our dear friends and most wonderful family for their love and support and extreme kindness at the time of John's sudden passing. The gifts of food, flowers, donations, and visitation will never be forgotten. He was truly loved by so many.
Thanks to Linda Sinclair and all of the very special staff and volunteers of St. Anne's Cancer and Palliative Care Unit at St. Joseph's.
Sincere thanks to Father Dan Grivas, the choir and organist at Holy Angels Church and St. Lawrence Funeral Homes for their expert service.
- Nancy Evans and Family -

Obituaries Obituaries

BRUINING, Carol - Peacefully passed away at home with family at her side on Thursday, March 5, 2015. Carol Bruining (nee Roberts) of Gifford at 70 years of age. Beloved wife of John. Loving mom of David (Laure) and Mark (Monica). Proud grandma of Michael, Nicholas, Sara, and Cassandra. Dear sister of Iete Joanne (Ron) Whitelshire and William. Carol may also be fondly remembered by her nieces and nephews. Private family arrangements have been held. Interment Mt. Pleasant Cemetery, Bradford. In Carol's memory, donations may be made to Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre, Cancer Centre. Arrangements entrusted to **SKWARCHUK FUNERAL HOME, Bradford.**

DOMINGUES, Maria - Peacefully passed away at Bradford Valley on Thursday, March 12, 2015. Maria Domingues (Barros) of Bradford at 82 years of age. Beloved wife of Adolfo Domingues. Loving mother of Julia (Manuel) Vlas, Adelaide (Antonio) Relva, Celine (Carlos) Pereira, Jo (Theresa) Domingues, Jean (Luis) Rodrigues and John (Pauline) Domingues. Maria will be lovingly remembered by her grandchildren, great grandchildren, brothers and sisters and their families. Earths called at **SKWARCHUK FUNERAL HOME, Bradford** for visitation. Funeral Mass was held at the Holy Martyrs of Japan Church, Bradford on Monday, March 16, 2015 at 10 a.m. Interment Holy Martyrs Cemetery, Bradford.

Parking lot is going green

As part of the revitalization of downtown Bradford, an Environmental Assessment recommended the reconfiguration of both the Mary Street and John Street public parking lots, to offset any loss of onstreet parking when Holland St. is reconstructed.

With repaving already being considered for the Mary St. lot, Town staff looked into Low Impact Development initiatives - and ended up partnering with the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority, to "green" the lot.

The LSRCA is offering the Town a \$200,000 grant, to offset the cost of installing features that include permeable paving, and a bio-swale to hold storm runoff. Khurram Tunio, Manager of Capital Projects, explained that the combination of permeable pavings, crushed stone and a vegetated bioswale would act like a pond, retaining runoff - allowing it to slowly filter into the existing storm sewer. "Basically, we are controlling the flow..." In the parking lot," he said.

The overall cost of reconstruction is \$350,000 - with \$200,000 to come from a LSRCA grant, and \$150,000 from the Cash-in-Lieu of parking revenue.

Councillors liked the idea of a "greener" parking lot, but not the reconfiguration of parking spaces. The drawings show the elimination of the angle parking currently in place.

"Why didn't you use angle parking?" asked Councillor Gary Lamb, noting that the lanes are shown as less than 4 metres wide - which would, he said, create problems for vehicles attempting to back up. "You're going to have a hell of a mess... I would like to see this go back, and change this to angle. I can't see this as questioned, as tight as this is."

Councillor Peter Dykx, Jr. working when the lot would be reconstructed, worried about the impact on Carrotfest and neighbouring businesses.

Director of Engineering Arup Mukherjee agreed that his department could look at reconfiguring the parking spaces - "It really doesn't change the basic principles" and promised to be "cognizant" of downtown activity and events.

But when Councillor Dykx suggested "we can do this cheaper" by paving, Mukherjee pointed out that the "generous funding" from the LSRCA was tied to the implementation of Low Impact Development features. The project had to be approved before the end of March to be eligible for the grant, but the design of the spaces could be considered at a later date, he said.

Tunio pointed out that the new configuration adds 10 parking spaces to the lot. If there is a return to angle parking, "we will lose all those additional spots that we are gaining." He suggested shortening the parking spaces, to widen the lanes to 4.2 metres - which should be sufficient.

Councillor Lamb wasn't convinced. "Not everybody's a great driver out there."

But Deputy Mayor James Leduc said, "I support this 100%. It's an opportunity for us to gain 10 spots, and that's what we need."

The project was approved by Council.

Canada Blooms!

Canada Blooms, Canada's largest indoor flower and garden festival continues to March 22, at the Direct Energy Centre at Exhibition Place in Toronto - co-locating with the Million Home Show. Escape from winter into Canada Blooms' fantasy gardens, get expert advice from landscapers, florists and garden experts and be inspired.

For more information and tickets, see canadablooms.com

Bond Head Garden Club

The Bond Head Garden Club meets Thursday, March 26 at the Danube Seniors Leisure Centre, 715 Simcoe Road in Bradford at 7:30 p.m. Guest speaker is Katie Dawson, talking about "New and Nearly New Annuals." All welcome. Refreshments.

The Bond Head & District Garden Club celebrates its 40th Anniversary on Thursday, April 23 at 7:30 p.m., at the Danube Seniors Leisure Centre. Guest speaker is Marion Jarvie, on "A new introduction of Under-seed Plants."

A Passing...

Kathy Barracough, a member of the Gifford & District Horticultural Society since 2001, passed away suddenly March 10 while vacationing in Texas. There will be a celebration of Kathy's life at Madonna's Greenhouse, 160 Bayview Parkway in Newmarket, from 2 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, March 22. Donations can be made to The Dr. Raymond E. Ives Horticultural Award Fund, in lieu of flowers.

Earth Hour!

Saturday, March 28 from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. is Earth Hour - think of your environmental footprint, conserve energy, and turn off all electronics for the hour.

The Town of Newmarket is holding an Earth Hour-themed drawing contest. Download a copy of the entry at www.newmarket.ca/EarthHour - and draw "what Earth Hour and Energy Conservation means to you." Email entries to EarthHour@newmarket.ca by April 2, or drop off at the Municipal Office at 395 Mulock Dr., Magna Centre, or Ray Twynney Recreation Complex, to be entered into a draw.

Forestry Workshop on EAB

The Emerald Ash Borer is now established in Simcoe County. The tiny pest, an invasive species native to China and eastern Asia, has killed tens of millions of Ontario's Ash trees since it was first detected in 2002.

Learn more at the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority's free Forest Management Workshop, at the Tiffin Conservation Area, 8155 - 8th Line E. on Hwy. 28 from 9 to 11:30 a.m. For more information or to register for the workshop, visit www.nvca.ca or call 705-424-1479.

BWG Community Clean-Up Day

The annual Bradford West Gwillimbury Community Clean-Up Day takes place Saturday, April 11.

Community-minded volunteers are asked to gather at the Bradford Community Centre at 125 Simcoe Road at 9 a.m., to climb aboard the free buses and spend the morning cleaning up litter on roadsides and in area parks. Gloves and garbage bags will be provided.

At noon, the volunteers will be bused back to the Community Centre for a free Appreciation Pizza Lunch.

"This is a great opportunity for the community to come together and help to make our Town beautiful," said Manager of Parks and Property, Mike O'Hare. Students looking to fulfill their community service hours for high school graduation are welcome, and can have their credit forms signed at the end of the day.

For more information or to sign up in advance, contact Mike O'Hare at 905-775-5359 ext. 5201 or mohare@townofbwg.com

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